

THE MISSOURI WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD 2012 Annual Report

The Missouri Workforce Investment Board (MoWIB) is the state's advisory board for workforce preparedness policy. MoWIB's purpose is to provide workforce investment activities, through statewide and local workforce investment systems, that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants and increase occupational skill attainment, thereby improving the quality of Missouri's workforce and enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of the state of Missouri. Established through federal and state legislative action, MoWIB is assigned to the Department of Economic Development/Division of Workforce Development.

The Board is currently a 38-member board. Its members are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA). MoWIB appointees are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. A majority of MoWIB's membership must represent private sector businesses. The Missouri Senate and the House of Representatives each hold two (2) slots on the Board, along with representatives of the Directors/Commissioners of six (6) state agencies.

MoWIB 2012 Highlights

- MoWIB is responsible for approving Missouri's State Workforce Plan every five (5) years for the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The plan describes how the State operates individual programs, the purposes of those programs, the customers being served, and how accountability is measured. This ensures both DOL and the public that federal funds are being used appropriately and responsibly. The State of Missouri's Workforce Integrated Plan for Program Years 2012 -2016 was reviewed, endorsed, and recommended to the Governor for approval by MoWIB in July 2012.
- Missouri Certified Work Ready Communities is a voluntary initiative guided by key community leaders that allows Missouri residents to achieve a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) – a job training credential. MoWIB reviews and recommends to the Governor Missouri counties who have applied to become Certified Work Ready Communities by demonstrating a commitment to developing a workforce that meets employer needs and have met all established criteria to achieve certification.
- MoWIB revised its Bylaws to reflect Section 620.511.5, RSMo, which addresses the service terms and vacancies of board members.

- MoWIB's new Chairman was named - Dr. Keith Gary, a business member affiliated with the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute. During 2012, the Governor reappointed one (1) board member and filled eight (8) vacancies on the MoWIB. Maida Coleman began her services as Executive Director on June 1, 2012.



It's All About Participation

Changes in leadership and membership, and more interaction with local communities were all part of the evolving scene for the **Missouri Workforce Investment Board (MoWIB)** in 2012.

In the spring, Governor Jay Nixon designated **Dr. Keith A. Gary** as the new chair of MoWIB. Dr. Gary is a business member of the state board, affiliated with the Kansas City Life Sciences Institute, and previously served as MoWIB's interim vice chair. Additionally, **Maida Coleman** was appointed as the new Executive Director of MoWIB on June 1. Coleman, a former state senator, previously assisted the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DOLIR) and DWD in managing workforce and Missouri Career Center initiatives as DOLIR's delegate to MoWIB. Outgoing Executive Director Nia Ray, who served as MoWIB's executive director since April 2009, assumed the management of DED's Missouri Economic Research & Information Center (MERIC).

MoWIB serves as an advisory council to the Governor and to DWD on **employment and training needs of Missouri businesses**. It sets workforce policies for the 14 local workforce regions that make up the state system. MoWIB strengthens ties among business, workforce, education, organized labor, and economic-development agencies. By federal and state law, **a majority of the board must come from a business background**, and other workforce interests also must be represented. Currently,

MoWIB is a 38-member board, appointed by the Governor, including a number of high-level management representatives from Missouri's most progressive and successful companies.

The board meets quarterly and engages the Directors and Commissioners of six state agencies to meet the objective of strengthening Missouri's workforce system. During 2012, Governor Jay Nixon reappointed one board member and filled eight vacant seats for terms ending between 2013 and 2016.

MoWIB is also responsible for approving **Missouri's State Workforce Plan**, which is periodically updated (generally, every five years) for the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The plan describes how the State operates individual programs, what the purposes of those programs are, who the customers being served are, and how accountability is measured. This ensures both DOL and the public that federal funds are being used appropriately and responsibly.

The *State of Missouri's Workforce Integrated Plan for Program Years 2012–2016* was reviewed, endorsed, and recommended to the Governor for approval by MoWIB in July. A new responsibility for MoWIB that was outlined in 2012 and will commence in 2013 is its role in the approval process for Missouri **Certified Work Ready Communities (CWRC)**. MoWIB will review and recommend county-level applications for that program at its quarterly meetings.